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**DETROIT MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON ON ILLEGAL FIREARM POSSESSION CHARGE**

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – Richard Robert Sanders, 25, of Detroit, was sentenced to 84 months in prison today by United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers, for being a felon in possession of a firearm. On or about January 17, 2010, officers with the Huntington Police Department responded to a report of a burglary in the 900 block of 27<sup>th</sup> Street and came in contact with the defendant. Sanders fled on foot and was caught in the 2500 block of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue where he became physically combative with officers until he was subdued. The defendant was found to be in possession of a loaded Kel-Tec 9-millimeter pistol with an obliterated serial number.

Sanders was prohibited from possessing a firearm based on multiple prior felony convictions, including a June 22, 2009 conviction in the Circuit Court of Cabell County.

The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Huntington Police Department. Special Assistant United States Attorney Joseph Adams handled the prosecution.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Neighborhoods. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide commitment to reduce gun crime in the United States by networking existing local programs targeting gun crime.

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